UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/523,379	03/10/2000	Naoto Matsunami	H-907	6045

			EXAMINER

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary		09/523,379	MATSUNAMI ET AL.
		Examiner	Art Unit	
		Philip B Tran	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>06 August 2004</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>29-35</u> is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>29-35</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
   application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-28 have been canceled. Claims 29-34 have been amended. Claim 35

has been newly added. Therefore, claims 29-35 are pending for further examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the
United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application
by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this
title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act

of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical

Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting

directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000.

Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior

to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3.   Claims 29-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by

Blumenau et al (Hereafter, Blumenau), U.S. Pat. No. 6,421,711.

Regarding claim 29, Blumenau teaches a computer system comprising :

a plurality of computers (= hosts 22-25) [see Figs. 1-3], each of which comprises a memory unit having a boot-up control program (= host controller driver program 61-64) [see Fig. 4 and Col. 31, Lines 35-43]; and

a storage system (= storage subsystem 20 or 50) [see Figs. 1-3] comprising at least one logical unit (= LUNs 53-56) [see Col. 9, Lines 22-32] and a plurality of interface control circuits (= ports 35-36 or 51-52) [see Figs. 1-3], coupled to said plurality of computers (= hosts 22-25) [see Figs. 1-3 and Col. 6, Line 64 to Col. 7, Line 39],

wherein some of said plurality of logical units are private logical units, each of which is conditionally accessible from a computer being used by a predetermined user, and

wherein each of said plurality of computers is arranged to execute a boot-up control program, detect at least one available private logical unit accessible from a computer on condition that the computer is being used by a user indicated by the inputted user name, according to the inputted user name (= user login and password) [see Col. 36, Line 61 to Col. 37, Line 3], and execute a boot-up process of an Operating System (OS) stored in a detected private logical unit (i.e., a host controller routine first powers up and logs in to the network, then a mapping driver in the host is loaded into the host's memory, and the host operating system invokes the mapping driver to obtain the LUNs accessible to it wherein there is volume access table 82 with private and shared flags indicates private/shared logical volumes) [see Figs. 5 & 22 and Col. 13, Lines 32-57 and Col. 26, Lines 1-41 and Col. 32, Lines 13-31].

Regarding claims 30-31, Blumenau further teaches a computer system according to claim 29, further comprising a management console coupled to said plurality of computers arid said storage system, said management console having a user Logical Unit Number (LUN) management table designating mutual correspondences between a user name and a logical unit which can be accessed from a computer being used by a user indicated by the corresponding user name, wherein said storage system comprises a LUN management table designating mutual correspondences between a logical unit and a computer which can access the corresponding logical unit, said management console is arranged to receive a user name inputted to a computer and an address of the computer from the computer, confirm a logical unit which can be accessed from a computer being used by a user indicated by the received user name by referring to said user LUN management table, and send an identification of the computer corresponding to the received address and an identification of the confirmed logical unit to said storage system in order to register the identification (ID) of the computer in said LUN management table in said storage system to make the ID of the computer correspond to the confirmed logical unit and wherein each of said plurality of computers is arranged to detect a private logical unit which is registered in said LUN management table with a correspondence to an ID of the detecting computer (i.e., volume access and mapping table includes host ID, group name and LUN to logical volume map) [see Figs. 5 & 8-9 & 23-24 and Col. 33, Line 40 to Col. 34, Line 10 and Col. 35, Line 20 to Col. 36, Line 24].

Regarding claim 32, Blumenau further teaches a computer system according to claim 29, wherein each of said plurality of computers comprises a user Logical Unit Number (LUN) management table stored in the memory unit, the user LUN management table designating mutual correspondences between a user name and a logical unit which can be accessed from a computer being used by a user indicated by the corresponding user name, said storage system comprises a LUN management table designating mutual correspondences between a logical unit and a computer which can access the logical unit, each of said plurality of computers is arranged to confirm a logical unit which can be accessed from a computer being used by a user indicated by the inputted user name by referring to the user LUN management table, send an identification (ID) of the computer and an identification of the formed logical unit to said storage system in order to register the ID of the computer in said LUN management table in said storage system to make the ID correspond to the confirmed logical unit, and detect a private logical unit which is registered in said LUN management table with a correspondence to an ID of the detecting computer (i.e., volume access and mapping table includes host ID, group name and LUN to logical volume map and user login and password) [see Figs. 5 & 8-9 & 23-24 and Col. 33, Line 40 to Col. 34, Line 10 and Col. 35, Line 20 to Col. 36, Line 24 and Col. 36, Line 61 to Col. 37, Line 3].

Regarding claims 33-34, Blumenau further teaches a computer system according to claim 30, wherein each of said plurality of computers comprises World Wide Name (WWN) information stored in the memory unit, which designates a correspondence

between the WWN and a user name, each computer being arranged to convert the

inputted user name to a WWN based on the WWN information, and to detect a private

logical unit by using the WWN and wherein said storage system comprises a LUN

management table designating mutual correspondences between a WWN and a logical

unit which can be accessed from a computer being used by a user corresponding to the

WWN, and each of said plurality of computers is arranged to detect a private logical unit

by using a WWN corresponding to the inputted user name, the detected logical unit

being registered in said LUN management table with a correspondence to the WWN

(i.e., mapping table includes host ID, group name and LUN to logical volume map) [see

Figs. 5 & 8-9 & 23-24].

Claim 35 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 32.

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive

because of the following reasons :

In response to applicant's arguments, the law of anticipation requires that a

distinction be made between the invention described or taught and the invention

claimed. It does not require that the reference "teach" what the subject patent teaches.

Assuming that a reference is properly "prior art," it is only necessary that the claims

under consideration "read on" something disclosed in the reference, i.e., all limitations

of the claim are found in the reference, or "fully met" by it. *See Colman v. Kimberly-

Clark Corp.*, 218 USPO 789.

Blumenau teaches a computer system comprising a plurality of computers (= hosts 22-25) [see Figs. 1-3], each of which comprises a memory unit having a boot-up control program (= host controller driver program 61-64) [see Fig. 4 and Col. 31, Lines 35-43], and a storage system (= storage subsystem 20 or 50) [see Figs. 1-3] comprising at least one logical unit (= LUNs 53-56) [see Col. 9, Lines 22-32] and a plurality of interface control circuits (= ports 35-36 or 51-52) [see Figs. 1-3], coupled to said plurality of computers (= hosts 22-25) [see Figs. 1-3 and Col. 6, Line 64 to Col. 7, Line 39]. In addition, Blumenau further teaches some of said plurality of logical units are private logical units, each of which is conditionally accessible from a computer being used by a predetermined user.

Furthermore, Blumenau teaches each of said plurality of computers is arranged to execute a boot-up control program, detect at least one available private logical unit accessible from a computer on condition that the computer is being used by a user indicated by the inputted user name, according to the inputted user name (= user login and password) [see Col. 36, Line 61 to Col. 37, Line 3], and execute a boot-up process of an Operating System (OS) stored in a detected private logical unit. For example, a host controller routine first powers up and logs in to the network, then a mapping driver in the host is loaded into the host's memory, and the host operating system invokes the mapping driver to obtain the LUNs accessible to it wherein there is volume access table 82 with private and shared flags indicates private/shared logical volumes) [see Figs. 5 & 22 and Col. 13, Lines 32-57 and Col. 26, Lines 1-41 and Col. 32, Lines 13-31].

Therefore, the examiner asserts that the cited prior arts teach or suggest the subject matter broadly recited in independent claim. Claims 30-35 are rejected at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claims and by other reasons set forth below. Accordingly, claims 29-25 are respectfully rejected as shown above.

5.   A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS, OR THIRTY DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. FAILURE TO RESPOND WITHIN THE PERIOD FOR RESPONSE WILL CAUSE THE APPLICATION TO BECOME ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). EXTENSIONS OF TIME MAY BE OBTAINED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 37 CAR 1.136(A).

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-8767. The Group fax phone number is (703) 872-9306.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam, can be reached on (703) 308-6662.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Philip Tran
Philip B. Tran
Art Unit 2155
Sept 17, 2004